

STRANGER THINGS

#304

THE SAUNA TEST

A code red brings the gang back together to face a frighteningly familiar evil. Karen urges Nancy to keep digging, and Robin finds a useful map.

EXT. HARGROVE HOUSE – FRONT YARD – NIGHT

It's storming.

INT. HARGROVE HOUSE – BATHROOM – NIGHT

Eleven brushes her teeth. She slowly pulls the toothbrush out of her mouth.

BILLY (O.S.): I'm sorry, I did not quite catch your name.

Flashback to #303. The Void. Billy turns and looks at Eleven.

FLASHBACK – INT. HARGROVE HOUSE – BATHROOM – DAY

Eleven holds up the bloody yellow whistle.

MAX (O.S.): What happened?

Flashback to #303. The Void. Eleven pushes open the red door.

FLASHBACK – INT./EXT. VOID

Eleven approaches the bathtub. Heather sits up.

HEATHER: Help me.

Heather is pulled under.

Flashback to #303. The Void. The bathtub disappears in a cloud of smoke.

FLASHBACK – INT./EXT. VOID

Heather is dragged under the water, reaching for Eleven as she is dragged down. Eleven tries to reach for her.

ELEVEN: No!

INT. HARGROVE HOUSE – BATHROOM – NIGHT

Eleven looks at the mirror.

INT. HARGROVE HOUSE – MAX'S ROOM – NIGHT

Max sits in bed. Max holds up two comic books – Wonder Woman, and Green Lantern.

MAX: Which one?

Eleven climbs into the bed.

ELEVEN: I don't know.

Eleven half lays in the bed, looking sad. Max puts the comic books down.

MAX: Hey, there's nothing to worry about anymore, okay?

ELEVEN: It doesn't make sense.

MAX: What doesn't make sense?

ELEVEN: Heather. The blood. The ice.

MAX: Heather had a fever, so she took a cold bath, but she's better now. That has to be it. I don't know where that blood came from, but...we saw her. We both saw her. She's totally fine.

Eleven looks unconvinced.

ELEVEN: What about Billy?

MAX: What about him?

ELEVEN: He seemed wrong.

Max chuckles.

MAX: Wrong is kind of like his default. But it's nice to know he's not a murderer, because that would've totally sucked.

Max chuckles. Eleven gives a small smile. She catches sight of the Wonder Woman comics on Max's bed.

ELEVEN: Who...is that?

Eleven sits up and points at Wonder Woman.

MAX: See, this is why you can't just hang out with Mike all the time.

Eleven leans back. Max grabs the comic book and sits back.

MAX (CONT'D): This is Wonder Woman.

Max starts flicking through the comic book. Eleven rests her head on Max's shoulder.

MAX (CONT'D): AKA Princess Diana. She's from Paradise Island, which is, like, this hidden island where there are only women Amazon warriors.

EXT. DRISCOLL HOUSE – NIGHT

It's storming. An ambulance is parked outside, its back doors open.

INT. DRISCOLL HOUSE – BASEMENT – NIGHT

Two paramedics work to strap Mrs. Driscoll to a stretcher as she struggles. Nancy and Jonathan watch from a distance. Callahan stands nearby. Everyone is confused and concerned by her actions.

MRS. DRISCOLL: Let me go! Let me go!

PARAMEDIC: Doris, we need you to stay calm for us, okay? Stay calm.

MRS. DRISCOLL: I have to go back! I have to go back! I have to go back! I have to go back!

EXT. DRISCOLL HOUSE – NIGHT

Nancy, Jonathan, and Callahan watch as the paramedics wheel Mrs. Driscoll towards the ambulance.

CALLAHAN: Okay, so, you two want to explain to me what in the name of Jesus just happened here?

EXT. HAWKINS ROAD – NIGHT

The ambulance drives through the storm, lights flashing and siren sounding.

INT. AMBULANCE

Mrs. Driscoll's screams are muffled by the oxygen mask, and she continues to struggle against her binds. She looks off to the left and manages to pull her hand out of the binds and reaches out.

EXT. HAWKINS ROAD – NIGHT

The ambulance drives past Brimborn Steelworks. Billy's car is parked outside.

INT. BRIMBORN STEELWORKS – BASEMENT – NIGHT

Tom's eyes open. He discovers himself tied up and tries to struggle against his binds. Next to him, Janet does the same.

JANET: (muffled) Tom!

Tom looks to his right to see Janet next to him, also tied up. She sobs. Echoing footsteps makes both of them look to the left, and they see Heather and Billy walking towards them.

HEATHER: Hi, Daddy.

Heather bends down and pulls the tie out of Tom's mouth. Billy stays standing, looking down at them.

TOM: Heather...sweetie...whatever this is, whatever he's got you into, you don't have to do this. You can stop this.

HEATHER: There is no stopping it, Daddy. You'll see.

Janet sobs. Heather puts her hand on Tom's cheek, and he leans into it.

TOM: No.

Heather stands up. Billy kneels beside Janet. She tries to scoot away from him, whimpering and sobbing. He takes the tie out of her mouth.

JANET: Heather, please! Heather!

Billy puts his hand over Janet's mouth, silencing her.

BILLY: Try not to move.

Billy stands up.

JANET: No. No.

Billy and Heather begin to walk up the stairs. Janet and Tom watch them, struggling against their binds.

TOM: Heather! Heather!

The sound of snarling to the left makes them look in its direction. They see the Spider Monster.

TOM (CONT'D): Jesus Christ.

The Spider Monster walks towards them, snarling. Janet and Tom struggle against their binds more desperately.

TOM (CONT'D): No.

Janet whimpers. Tom looks at the Spider Monster in horror. It reaches a tendril out and latches onto Tom's face. Janet screams. Another tendril reaches out and latches onto her face. Their grunts are muffled as the Spider Monster possesses them.

Cut to black.

MAIN TITLES.

CHAPTER FOUR: THE SAUNA TEST.

EXT. HOPPER'S CABIN – FRONT YARD – DAY

Water drips from leaves as they dry from the storm.

INT. HOPPER'S CABIN – LOUNGE ROOM – DAY

Hopper lays on the couch. He wakes up, groaning. He coughs.

JOYCE: (echoing slightly) Hey, careful.

Joyce walks from the kitchen towards the couch Hopper's laying on.

JOYCE (CONT'D): (echoing slightly) Careful.

Hopper coughs. Joyce kneels beside him.

JOYCE (CONT'D): (echoing slightly) Here. Hey.

HOPPER: Joyce.

Joyce gives a small smile. Hopper suddenly looks as though he's going to throw up.

JOYCE: Oh.

Hopper struggles to hold his vomit in as Joyce looks around for a container. She grabs a pot and holds it out.

JOYCE (CONT'D): Here, here, here.

Joyce averts her eyes as Hopper rolls over and vomits into the pot.

JOYCE (CONT'D): It's okay.

Hopper vomits again.

JOYCE (CONT'D): That's it. Got it?

Hopper groans as he rolls back over, wiping his mouth. Joyce grabs a pill bottle and tips a pill onto her hand, holding it out to Hopper.

JOYCE (CONT'D): Here.

HOPPER: How long have I been out?

JOYCE: A while. You've been drifting in and out.

Hopper takes the pill.

HOPPER: Yeah, but how did I get here?

JOYCE: Slowly.

Hopper sits up.

JOYCE (CONT'D): What's the last thing you remember?

HOPPER: Some thug attacked me.

JOYCE: Hey, you need to rest.

HOPPER: No, I'm fine.

Hopper starts to stand up.

JOYCE: No, you're not fine.

HOPPER: I'm fine. I'm fine.

JOYCE: Hop-

Hopper stands up, and the sheet over him starts to fall. Joyce lets out a small yell and averts her eyes as Hopper quickly grabs it, keeping it above his crotch area.

JOYCE (CONT'D): Um...

HOPPER: Where are my clothes?

JOYCE: Uh...uh...

Joyce gestures awkwardly behind her.

EXT. HOPPER'S CABIN – FRONT YARD – DAY

Hopper walks outside, tying the sheet around his waist. Joyce follows him out. Hopper sighs when he sees his clothes and shoes on the railing outside. He picks up his shirt.

JOYCE (CONT'D): They were soaked.

Hopper throws his shirt back onto the railing.

INT. HOPPER'S CABIN – LOUNGE ROOM – DAY

Hopper walks inside, carrying his shoes, and heads towards the kitchen. Joyce follows, closing the door behind her.

JOYCE (CONT'D): I mean, did you recognise him?

INT. HOPPER'S CABIN – KITCHEN – DAY

HOPPER: Who?

JOYCE: The thug.

HOPPER: Well, I didn't get a good look.

Hopper opens the fridge and grabs a drink.

JOYCE: Well, I mean, he's gotta be government, right?

HOPPER: Yeah, but if he's government, what's he doing slinking around?

INT. HOPPER'S CABIN – LOUNGE ROOM – DAY

Hopper heads towards his room. Joyce follows.

HOPPER (CONT'D): W-why is he running? You know, why didn't we find anything down there?

JOYCE: Let's ask him.

Hopper turns around to see Joyce holding up a notepad. It reads '89--YB'.

HOPPER: What is that?

JOYCE: His license plate.

Hopper takes the notepad to look at it closer.

HOPPER: What are the dashes?

Joyce grabs part of the notepad to steady it. Hopper stares at her.

JOYCE: Well, they're blanks. There was...I think it was either an H or a P with the part rubbed off. And there was definitely a Y. For sure. And that, I think, was a B, but it could've been an eight.

Hopper drops the notepad on a small table.

JOYCE (CONT'D): And that...wait-

HOPPER: I think you should stick to sales.

Hopper walks into his room and closes the curtain behind him.

JOYCE: Can't you run a search or something?

INT. HOPPER'S CABIN – HOPPER'S ROOM – DAY

Hopper gets dressed.

HOPPER: I just think you have to lower your expectations.

INT. HOPPER'S CABIN – LOUNGE ROOM – DAY

Joyce stands outside Hopper's room.

HOPPER (CONT'D)(O.S.): I mean, this is a state government agency.

INT. HOPPER'S CABIN – HOPPER'S ROOM – DAY

Hopper gets dressed.

HOPPER (CONT'D): It's gonna take weeks before they find a match.

INT. HOPPER'S CABIN – LOUNGE ROOM – DAY

Joyce stands outside Hopper's room.

JOYCE: Weeks?

HOPPER (O.S.): If we're lucky. And, I mean...

INT. HOPPER'S CABIN – HOPPER'S ROOM – DAY

Hopper gets dressed.

HOPPER (CONT'D): What are the odds that this guy registers a car in his own name?

INT. HOPPER'S CABIN – LOUNGE ROOM – DAY

Joyce stands outside Hopper's room.

JOYCE: It wasn't a car.

Hopper slides open the curtain. Joyce clears her throat.

JOYCE (CONT'D): Uh, what are you wearing?

HOPPER: What do you mean it wasn't a car?

EXT. HARGROVE HOUSE – FRONT YARD – DAY

LUCAS (ON SUPERCOMM): Do you copy?

INT. HARGROVE HOUSE – MAX'S ROOM – DAY

Max and Eleven lay in bed. Comic books are scattered on the floor. Max's Supercomm rests on the floor near her.

LUCAS (CONT'D)(ON SUPERCOMM): This is a code red. I repeat, this is a code red, Max. Do you copy?

Max reaches down and grabs the Supercomm.

LUCAS (CONT'D)(ON SUPERCOMM): This is a code red.

MAX: Shut...up.

Max turns the Supercomm off and drops it on the floor. She rolls over. Eleven rubs her eyes and lays back down.

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – BASEMENT – DAY

Mike, Lucas, and Will sit on the couch. Lucas holds the Supercomm. He looks at Mike.

LUCAS: She turned it off.

Mike looks in the direction of the phone.

INT. HARGROVE HOUSE – MAX'S ROOM – DAY

The phone starts ringing. Max quickly sits up and looks at it. She scoffs.

MAX: Oh, you've got to be kidding me.

Max throws the covers off and walks over to the phone, picking it up.

MAX (CONT'D): I'm sleeping. Go away.

Max goes to hang the phone up but stops when Mike starts speaking.

MIKE (ON PHONE): This is Mike. Do not hang up.

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – BASEMENT – DAY

Mike stands by the phone.

MIKE (CONT'D): Something happened. Something bad.

INT. HARGROVE HOUSE – MAX'S ROOM – DAY

Max stands by the phone.

MIKE (CONT'D)(ON PHONE): Our very lives can be at stake.

MAX: What are you talking about?

MIKE: Just come over to my house.

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – BASEMENT – DAY

Mike stands by the phone.

MIKE (CONT'D): We'll explain everything.

MAX (ON PHONE): What?

MIKE: Hurry.

Mike hangs up the phone.

INT. HARGROVE HOUSE – MAX'S ROOM – DAY

She stares at the phone in confusion as the dial tone sounds. Eleven looks at her from the bed, half turned.

ELEVEN: What did he say?

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – BASEMENT – DAY

Mike stands by the phone. He faces Lucas and Will, who sit on the couch.

MIKE: Try Dustin again.

LUCAS: He's not answering.

MIKE: So, try him again.

Lucas sighs and brings the Supercomm to his mouth.

LUCAS: Dustin, do you copy? I repeat, this is a code red.

EXT. STARCOURT MALL – ROOFTOP – DAY

Dustin watches the delivery room through binoculars. He sees a delivery man wheel a trolley of boxes towards the delivery room. He watches as one of the guards uses a key card to open the delivery room doors.

DUSTIN (O.S.): That key card opens the door, but unfortunately, the Russian with this key card also has a massive gun.

Dustin watches as the delivery man wheels the trolley into the delivery room. The guard moves back to his post, gun at the ready.

INT. SCOOPS AHOY – BACK ROOM – DAY

Steve and Robin sit on either side of the table. Dustin paces the side of the room near the window to the store. Steve twirls his hat inside out. Robin fidgets with an ice cream scooper.

DUSTIN (CONT'D): Whatever's in this room, whatever's in those boxes, they really don't want anybody finding it.

ROBIN: But there's gotta be a way in.

Steve blows on his hat to put it right side out.

STEVE: Well, you know...I could just take him out.

ROBIN: Take who out?

STEVE: The Russian guard.

Robin leans back in her chair, giving Steve a look as if to say, "I don't believe you, but go on".

STEVE (CONT'D): What? I sneak up behind him, I knock him out, and I take his key card. It's easy.

DUSTIN: Did you not hear the part about the massive gun?

STEVE: Yes, Dustin, I did. And that's why I would be sneaking.

Steve moves his fingers to make them look like they're walking.

DUSTIN: Ah. Well, please, tell me this, and be honest, have you ever actually...won a fight?

STEVE: Okay, that was one time-

DUSTIN: Twice. Jonathan. Year prior?

STEVE: Listen, that doesn't count.

DUSTIN: Why wouldn't it count? Because it looks like he beat the shit out of you.

Robin looks up and notices the vents.

STEVE: Yeah, it was...

DUSTIN: You got a fat lip, crooked nose, swollen eye, a lot of blood...

STEVE: ...things that all added up...

ROBIN: That just might work.

INT. SCOOPS AHOY – EATING AREA – DAY

Robin reaches into the tip jar and grabs all the notes. Steve watches through the window.

STEVE: Robin.

Robin moves to leave the area behind the counter. Steve moves to the door to the back room.

STEVE (CONT'D): Hey, Robin! Hey, what-

Robin walks into the main part of the store. Steve walks out the door and stands behind the counter. Dustin walks out after him.

STEVE (CONT'D): What are you doing?

Robin turns to look at Steve and Dustin, walking backwards.

ROBIN: I need cash.

STEVE: Well, half of that's mine. Where are you going?

Robin stops walking just outside the store, still looking at Steve and Dustin.

ROBIN: To find us a way into that room, a safe way. And, in the meantime, sling ice cream, behave, and don't get beat up. I'll be back in a jiff.

Robin turns and runs away. Dustin uses a scooper to pick up some ice cream, licking it from the scooper. Steve notices and grabs the scooper away.

STEVE: Oh, dude.

Steve twirls the scooper and puts it into his scooper holder.

STEVE (CONT'D): Come on, man, not my scooper.

INT. HAWKINS POST – HALLWAY – DAY

Nancy and Jonathan sit outside Tom's office. Bruce opens a drawer in a filing cabinet and gets out a file. He notices Nancy and Jonathan looking at him.

MAN (O.S.): If he gets us the layout by noon, we can do it.

WOMAN (O.S.): Okay, I'll let him know.

Bruce closes the drawer. He grabs his tie and lifts it up, making a choking noise as he pretends to choke himself. He drops his tie and laughs.

The door to Tom's office opens, making Nancy and Jonathan sit up straight and look towards it. Callahan walks out, looking inside.

CALLAHAN: Dunno if they'll go through with it, but I just thought you should know.

Callahan gives Nancy and Jonathan an apologetic look as he walks past. Tom walks out of his office, turning to look at Nancy and Jonathan. He looks dishevelled, and there's a large bandage on his forehead.

TOM: Nancy. Jonathan.

Tom walks into his office. Nancy and Jonathan look at each other.

TOM (CONT'D)(O.S.): I've worked at this paper for twenty-five years.

INT. HAWKINS POST – TOM'S OFFICE – DAY

Tom stands behind his desk, looking at the frames on his wall. Nancy and Jonathan sit on the other side of the desk. Tom turns around.

TOM (CONT'D): Twenty-five...years. Now, we're a small-town paper, but we have something the big papers don't have: trust. The trust of our community.

NANCY: Tom, if you just-

Tom kicks the right side of his desk with such force that it pushes the desk and backwards, the things on top of the desk moving as well. Jonathan jumps slightly.

TOM: Do you know how I built that trust? By placing my faith in something the two of you don't seem to value a whole lot: facts. Facts. So, while we're here, let's go over the facts. Fact one: you disobeyed a direct order to stop pursuing this story. Two: you falsely identified yourselves as reporters, repeatedly lying to an elderly woman. Three: you broke into her home, committing trespass.

Nancy rolls her eyes. Jonathan looks at the floor, eyebrows furrowed.

TOM (CONT'D): Four: she almost died en route to the hospital.

NANCY: She would've died if we hadn't shown up! Whatever disease that rat had clearly passed to her-

TOM: Five! Mrs. Driscoll is a paranoid schizophrenic.

Nancy looks shocked. Jonathan looks up at Tom, then back at the floor, looking as though he's trying to figure something out.

TOM (CONT'D): You didn't know that, did you? Now...disease-carrying rats? The second coming of the plague? Does this sound credible to you, or perhaps does this sound more like the delusions of a very sick old lady?

NANCY: I didn't know that.

TOM: Her family's furious. So furious, in fact, they've threatened litigation.

Nancy and Jonathan both look at Tom, confused.

JONATHAN: Litigation?

NANCY: That's crazy.

TOM: For once, we agree. This is crazy. In fact, in my entire professional career, I've never dealt with anything quite like it. But hopefully, hopefully, you've learned something valuable here. You've learned...

Tom sits down. Nancy and Jonathan look at the floor.

TOM (CONT'D): How, in the workplace, in the real world, there are consequences to your actions. Which brings me to my sixth and final...fact. You're fired.

Nancy looks at Tom.

TOM (CONT'D): Both of you.

Jonathan looks at Nancy. She looks at the floor.

EXT. WHEELER HOUSE – FRONT YARD – DAY

Max bikes towards the house, Eleven standing on the pegs of the bike.

WILL (O.S.): I didn't think it was anything at first.

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – BASEMENT – DAY

Will sits on a stool in the corner of the room. Mike and Lucas sit on the couch. Eleven sits on the rocking chair. Max sits on the ground. They all look at Will.

WILL (CONT'D): I mean, I think I just didn't want to believe it. The first day I felt it was at Day of the Dead.

Flashback to #301. A theatre in Star Cinemas. The audience cheering. The hairs on the back of Will's neck standing up. Will reaching up to touch the back of his neck.

MIKE: Power went out that night, too.

WILL: And then I felt it again at the field near the Nelson farm the next day.

Flashback to #301. Weathertop. The hairs on the back of Will's neck standing up. Will reaching up to touch the back of his neck while turning around. Will seeing nothing.

WILL (CONT'D): Then again yesterday outside Castle Byers.

EXT. HAWKINS WOODS – CASTLE BYERS – NIGHT

The rain pours down. Will touches the back of his neck, then drops his hand. He looks around.

LUCAS (O.S.): Will!

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – BASEMENT – DAY

MAX: What does it feel like?

WILL: It's almost like...you know when you drop on a roller coaster?

MIKE: Sure.

MAX: Yeah.

ELEVEN: No.

WILL: It's like...everything inside your body is just sinking all at once, but...this is worse. Your body...it goes cold and...and you can't breathe. I've felt it before, whenever he was close.

Flashback to #201. The Byers lounge room. Will looking at the open front door, looking terrified. A red thunderstorm rages outside. The hairs on the back of his neck stand up.

MAX: Whenever who was close?

WILL: The Mind Flayer.

FLASHBACK – EXT. HAWKINS MIDDLE SCHOOL – OVAL – LOOKS LIKE THE UPSIDE DOWN

The Mind Flayer rises above the school, its arms unfurling.

WILL (CONT'D): Go away! Go away!

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – BASEMENT – DAY

ELEVEN: I closed the Gate.

WILL: I know, but...what if he never left?

Will looks at Eleven.

WILL (CONT'D): What if we locked him out here with us?

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – BASEMENT – DAY

The group crowds around the table. Will slaps a piece of paper onto the table and starts drawing the Mind Flayer with charcoal as he explains.

WILL (CONT'D): This is him. All of him. But, that day on the field, a part of him attached itself to me.

Flashback to #203. Behind Hawkins Middle. The world looking like the Upside Down. Will shaking wildly as the Mind Flayer possesses him.

Will runs his hand over the drawing, getting some of the charcoal on his hand. He holds his hand up.

WILL (CONT'D): My mum got it out of me...

FLASHBACK

FLASHBACK – INT. HOPPER'S CABIN – LOUNGE ROOM – NIGHT

Will writhes and screams as the Mind Flayer is burned out of him. Joyce kneels on the bed, knees on either side of Will's body.

JOYCE: Get the hell out of my son!

Flashback to #209. Hopper's cabin's lounge room. Will screaming as the Mind Flayer starts to exit his body.

WILL: And Eleven closed the Gate.

Flashback to #209. The Gate. Eleven screams as she uses her powers to push the Mind Flayer's tendril back while closing the Gate.

WILL turns the paper over.

WILL (CONT'D): But the part that was still in me, what if it's still in our world?

Flashback to #209. Hopper's cabin's lounge room. The Mind Flayer breaking through the door and flying out. Nancy running outside and watching it disappear into the air.

Will smacks his hand onto the paper, leaving a handprint.

WILL (CONT'D): In Hawkins.

MAX: I don't understand. The demodogs died when El closed the Gate. If the brain dies, the body dies.

MIKE: We can't take any chances. We need to assume the worst. The Mind Flayer's back.

WILL: Yeah. And if he is, he'd want to attach himself to someone again. A new me.

LUCAS: A new host.

Max looks at Eleven.

ELEVEN: How can you tell if someone is a host?

EXT. HAWKINS TOWN HALL – DAY

Hopper drives over a 'KLINE'S A SWINE' poster before parking. He and Joyce quickly get out of the truck, with Joyce waiting by the passenger door while Hopper rounds the front. Together they walk towards Town Hall.

INT. HAWKINS TOWN HALL – RECEPTION – DAY

Hopper and Joyce walk in.

HOPPER: Hey, is he in?

CANDICE: Yes, he's busy at the moment, but-

HOPPER: Great.

Hopper doesn't stop, continuing towards Kline's office. Candice stands up.

CANDICE: Excuse me.

Joyce stands in front of Candice's desk.

JOYCE: You should sit down.

INT. HAWKINS TOWN HALL – KLINE'S OFFICE – DAY

Kline sits behind his desk, talking on the phone. Hopper opens the door.

KLINE: ...wouldn't listen-

Kline looks up when Hopper enters.

KLINE (CONT'D): Uh...Tony, hold on.

Kline gestures for Hopper to walk in and sit down.

KLINE (CONT'D): Let me, uh...

Hopper closes the door, locking it behind him.

KLINE (CONT'D): I might have to...let me call you back. Okay. Thanks.

Hopper sits down in one of the chairs opposite Kline. Kline hangs up the phone.

KLINE (CONT'D): Jim.

HOPPER: I know, I know. You're busy. I'm gonna make this fast, I promise.

KLINE: Is there, uh...some kind of problem?

HOPPER: Yeah. You might say that. Um, I'm looking for the name of a guy.

KLINE: The name of a guy.

HOPPER: Yeah, I think you might know this guy.

KLINE: Okay.

HOPPER: He was here the other day. Rides a motorcycle.

Flashback to #303. The town hall waiting room. Grigori walks past Hopper.

HOPPER (CONT'D): Big build, square jaw, dark hair. He's probably military, maybe ex-military? Is this ringing...any bells?

KLINE: Uh...

Kline chuckles.

KLINE (CONT'D): I don't think so.

Hopper leans forward and picks up Kline's name block.

HOPPER: Really? Cause it was just two days ago. This was right before I saw you.

KLINE: Oh! You know what?

HOPPER: What?

KLINE: Could be the maintenance guy.

HOPPER: Maintenance.

KLINE: Yeah, yeah, yeah. I can't remember his name. Oh, God...uh...Gary or John or something. Candice'll have his name on file.

Hopper's brows furrow.

KLINE (CONT'D): We've had trouble with the plumbing. Clogged toilets and...sinks with minds of their own.

Kline chuckles.

HOPPER: You meeting with a lot of plumbers, Larry?

KLINE: Excuse me?

HOPPER: This guy, when I saw him, he was coming out of your office.

KLINE: Okay, well, I don't remember that. I shake a lot of hands, you know?

Hopper puts the name block down. He leans back in the chair, putting one foot against the edge of the desk.

HOPPER: Do you remember when I caught you passed out in the hideaway with all that powder all over your nose? You remember?

KLINE: Jim, come on, now.

HOPPER: Do you remember when my boys found you and (loudly, head slightly tilted towards the door) Candice going at it like a couple of bunnies in the back of your Cadillac? (normally, head faced forward) Do you remember that? Does your wife remember that?

KLINE: You, uh...

Kline clears his throat.

KLINE (CONT'D): You really wanna play this game? Huh?

Hopper puts his foot down and leans forward, forearms resting on the desk.

HOPPER: Not a game, Lar.

KLINE: Okay. Those pills you used to swallow like candy. I can't recall, did you have a prescription for those?

Hopper leans back in the chair, putting one foot against the edge of the desk.

KLINE (CONT'D): Or how about drinking on duty?

Kline chuckles.

KLINE (CONT'D): Yeah. We have some real fun stories about that.

Kline chuckles.

KLINE (CONT'D): One call to Tom at the Post...and you're done, buddy. You're gone. Oh, and, please...

Kline stands up and leans forward with his hands on the desk.

KLINE (CONT'D): Don't give me that dead daughter sob story, cause I just don't care.

Kline taps the desk and moves towards the door. Hopper gives a thin smile.

KLINE (CONT'D): Now, if you don't mind, I really am rather busy.

Kline moves to open the door. Hopper gets out of his chair and quickly walks towards the door.

KLINE (CONT'D): Operating directors-

Hopper slams Kline hard against the door. Kline grunts.

INT. HAWKINS TOWN HALL – RECEPTION – DAY

KLINE (CONT'D)(O.S.): Damn it!

Candice and Joyce look in the direction of the office.

INT. HAWKINS TOWN HALL – KLINE'S OFFICE – DAY

Kline grunts in pain. Hopper pulls him to a standing position as he stares at his hands, which are covered in blood. He looks at Hopper, blood running from his nose.

KLINE (CONT'D): My nose! You broke my goddamn nose!

HOPPER: Yeah, and your friend almost killed me last night, so I'd say we're still not even.

Hopper pushes Kline against the door.

INT. HAWKINS TOWN HALL – RECEPTION – DAY

Candice runs towards the door, trying it and finding it locked. She wrestles with the door knob. Joyce stays put.

CANDICE: Larry?

HOPPER (O.S.): Let's cut the crap, Larry!

CANDICE: Larry!

INT. HAWKINS TOWN HALL – KLINE'S OFFICE – DAY

Hopper holds Kline against the wall. Candice can be heard calling out and trying to open the door.

HOPPER: Who is this guy? Government? Military?

KLINE: You're making a big mistake.

HOPPER: Who is he?

CANDICE (O.S.): Larry!

KLINE: It's Arnold Schwarzenegger.

CANDICE (O.S.): Larry!

Hopper punches Kline in the nose, making him cry out in pain.

INT. HAWKINS TOWN HALL – RECEPTION – DAY

Candice runs towards the phone as Kline can be heard crying in pain. As she picks the phone up, Joyce pulls the wire out.

JOYCE: Who you calling? The police?

INT. HAWKINS TOWN HALL – KLINE'S OFFICE – DAY

Hopper throws Kline onto his desk, making him grunt. Hopper grabs Kline's arm and holds it still, grabbing his finger.

HOPPER: That is a nice ring you go there, Larry.

Hopper grabs the cigar cutter and pulls it towards Kline, sliding it around his finger.

KLINE: Are you insane?

HOPPER: I don't know. Let's find out.

Hopper starts to push down on the cigar cutter, the blade touching to Kline's finger. Kline cries out.

KLINE: Okay, okay, okay. Be cool, be cool.

Hopper stops pushing it, giving Kline an angry look.

KLINE (CONT'D): I don't know his name, I swear.

Hopper sighs and starts to push onto the cigar cutter again, the blade starting to cut through Kline's finger and make him bleed. Kline yells in pain.

KLINE (CONT'D): Ah, ah, ah!

HOPPER: But you know him.

KLINE: He...he gives me things sometimes.

HOPPER: What kind of things?

KLINE: Money. Presents.

Hopper pushes down on the cigar cutter again.

KLINE (CONT'D): Aah! Gifts.

HOPPER: Who is this guy, Santa Claus?

KLINE: Starcourt. Starcourt. He works for Starcourt.

HOPPER: The mall?

KLINE: Yes, yes.

Hopper chuckles.

HOPPER: Yeah, right.

Hopper raises his hand up in the intention to slam it down on the cigar cutter.

KLINE: Aah! I swear! I swear! I swear! Starcourt. They...they own the mall. They want to expand to East Hawkins. They needed property, some land. Some people didn't want to sell, so I leaned on them a little. That's all. I swear, that's all.

Hopper slams his hand down beside the cigar cutter. Kline sighs in relief. Hopper grabs him, pulls him to a standing position, then throws him against the window. He groans in pain when he hits the blinds.

HOPPER: Why do they want this land?

KLINE: I don't know!

HOPPER: You have records of these purchases, these, uh...

Hopper walks towards Kline, who backs away.

HOPPER (CONT'D): These land purchases?

Kline hits his chair and falls into it. He breathes rapidly as Hopper stands over him.

KLINE: You don't want to mess with these people, Jim.

HOPPER: I think you should worry about yourself right now, Larry, not about me. The records. Where are they?

INT. HAWKINS TOWN HALL – RECEPTION – DAY

Candice sits anxiously at the desk. Kline is thrown out of his office, groaning as he stumbles. Candice stands up and tries to look around the wall.

CANDICE: Larry?

Hopper walks out of the office after Kline. Joyce opens the door to the reception office.

HOPPER: Oh, he just bumped his head.

Hopper grabs Kline and pulls him upright, keeping a tight grip on his arms.

HOPPER (CONT'D): Just a little boo-boo, right, Lar?

Kline grunts. Hopper walks him towards the door. Joyce taps the desk as they walk past her and out of the room.

JOYCE: Have a nice day.

CANDICE: Larry!

Joyce walks out of the room and closes the door behind her.

EXT. HAWKINS ROAD – DAY

Jonathan's car drives along.

NANCY (O.S.): It's bullshit.

INT. JONATHAN'S CAR

Jonathan drives. Nancy sits in the passenger seat.

NANCY (CONT'D): So, according to Tom, Driscoll's just a schizophrenic? And that rat is just a rat? And it's all, what, some big coincidence? You know what I think? I think Tom was on drugs.

Jonathan gives Nancy a confused look.

JONATHAN: What?

NANCY: Did you see him? He was sweating like crazy. And his palms were clammy. He looked awful.

Jonathan chuckles, shaking his head.

NANCY (CONT'D): Oh, is this funny to you?

JONATHAN: No. No, it's just kind of incredible.

NANCY: Incredible?

JONATHAN: Yeah, incredible how you just continue to convince yourself.

NANCY: What's that supposed to mean?

JONATHAN: I told you over and over to drop this story. That it was a bad idea.

Nancy scoffs.

JONATHAN (CONT'D): But you refused, and now, I'm screwed.

NANCY: It's a summer job. Your life is hardly over.

JONATHAN: I don't live in a two-story house on Maple Street. My dad doesn't earn six figures. Hell, he isn't even around.

NANCY: God, here comes the Oliver Twist routine.

JONATHAN: Mortgage, college tuition. You know, they're real things, Nancy. Things that you don't care about, only because you don't have to.

NANCY: I didn't realise I lived in a bubble!

JONATHAN: Well, you do! You want everything handed to you on a silver platter. I mean, we were interns, Nancy! Interns! What did you expect, that you would make star reporter in a month? Crack the big case?

NANCY: You sound just like them. You realise that, right? Just like Bruce and those assholes-

JONATHAN: Yeah, yeah, those assholes gave us jobs.

NANCY: Is that what that was? That was humiliating. Humiliating.

JONATHAN: Yeah, the real world sucks. Deal with it like the rest of us.

Nancy looks at Jonathan, tears welling in her eyes.

NANCY: You don't know what it's like.

Jonathan looks at Nancy briefly, tears welling in his eyes.

JONATHAN: Neither do you.

Nancy scoffs.

NANCY: Well, then, I guess we just don't understand each other anymore.

JONATHAN: Yeah, I guess not.

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – FOYER – DAY

Nancy opens the door and walks in, holding her box of things. She keeps her head down as she passes the lounge room to get to the stairs. Karen looks up from her vacuuming in the lounge room as Nancy passes.

KAREN: Hey, you're home early.

NANCY: Ah, yeah. Light day.

Nancy snuffles as she walks up the stairs. Karen stands at the edge of the lounge room, looking after her with a concerned look.

EXT. STARCOURT MALL – DAY

Robin bikes up to the bike rack and parks it. She starts to take her helmet off as she walks towards the entrance.

ROBIN (O.S.): It is fascinating what 20 bucks will get you at the County Recorder's office.

INT. SCOOPS AHOY – BACK ROOM – DAY

Robin lays out the Starcourt Mall blueprints on the table. Dustin and Steve stand beside her.

ROBIN (CONT'D): Starcourt Mall. The complete blueprints.

DUSTIN: Not bad.

Steve sits down. Robin points to Scoops Ahoy's location on the blueprints.

ROBIN: So, this is us, Scoops, and this is where we want to get.

Robin points at the location of the delivery room on the blueprints.

STEVE: I mean, I don't really see a way in.

ROBIN: There's not, if you're talking exclusively about doors.

Robin pulls off the top blueprint, revealing an almost identical blueprint underneath that includes air ducts.

DUSTIN: Air ducts.

ROBIN: Exactly.

Robin walks over to the whiteboard.

ROBIN (CONT'D): Turns out, this secret room needs air just like any old room.

Robin grabs a red whiteboard marker and walks back to the table.

ROBIN (CONT'D): And these air ducts...

Robin draws a circle around the location of the delivery room on the map.

ROBIN (CONT'D): Lead all the way...

Robin uses the marker to follow the air ducts all the way to Scoops Ahoy, which she circles.

ROBIN (CONT'D): Here.

Robin looks up at the air vent. Dustin and Steve look at it.

INT. STARCOURT MALL – VENTS – DAY

Steve takes the cover off the air vent. He holds a screwdriver in his mouth. He looks down.

STEVE: Flashlight.

INT. SCOOPS AHOY – BACK ROOM – DAY

Steve stands on a ladder. Dustin takes the air vent cover from Steve and sets it down. He holds a torch up to Steve, who takes the screwdriver out of his mouth and swaps it with Dustin for the torch.

STEVE (CONT'D): Thank you.

INT. STARCOURT MALL – VENTS – DAY

Steve uses the torch and tries to get a good look inside the ducts.

STEVE (CONT'D): Yeah, I don't know, man. I don't know if you can fit in here. It's, like...super tight.

INT. SCOOPS AHOY – BACK ROOM – DAY

DUSTIN: I'll fit.

Steve starts to climb down the ladder, handing Dustin the torch as he does so.

DUSTIN (CONT'D): Trust me. No collar bones, remember?

ROBIN: Uh, excuse me?

Steve jumps down from the ladder. Dustin starts to climb up it.

STEVE: Oh, he's, uh...yeah, he's got some disease. Chry, uh....it's chrydo, um...

INT. STARCOURT MALL – VENTS – DAY

Dustin looks inside.

INT. SCOOPS AHOY – BACK ROOM – DAY

STEVE (CONT'D): Something. Yeah, I dunno. He's missing bones and stuff. He can bend like Gumbo.

ROBIN: You mean Gumby.

STEVE: I'm pretty sure it's Gumbo.

INT. STARCOURT MALL – VENTS – DAY

Dustin has wedged his upper body inside.

DUSTIN: Steve, just shut up and push me!

INT. SCOOPS AHOY – BACK ROOM – DAY

STEVE: Okay.

Steve walks over to the ladder and steps up, grabbing Dustin's feet.

STEVE (CONT'D): I'll push ya.

Steve starts to push on Dustin's feet. Robin watches.

DUSTIN: Not my feet, dumbass. Push my ass.

STEVE: What?

INT. STARCOURT MALL – VENTS – DAY

DUSTIN: Touch my butt! I don't care!

INT. SCOOPS AHOY – BACK ROOM – DAY

Steve steps up higher and starts pushing on Dustin's bum.

DUSTIN (CONT'D): Come on! Harder!

STEVE: I'm pushing!

INT. STARCOURT MALL – VENTS – DAY

DUSTIN: Push harder!

INT. SCOOPS AHOY – BACK ROOM – DAY

Steve puts Dustin's legs over his shoulder as he steps higher, using one hand to push Dustin's bum.

DUSTIN (CONT'D): You're playing with my legs.

STEVE: I'm not playing, I have terrible footing.

Robin shakes her head.

INT. STARCOURT MALL – VENTS – DAY

DUSTIN: Come on!

INT. SCOOPS AHOY – BACK ROOM – DAY

Steve is higher on the ladder, Dustin's legs across his shoulders.

STEVE: Okay, I'm just gonna shove you, ready?

DUSTIN: Just shove me?

STEVE: One, two...

INT. STARCOURT MALL – VENTS – DAY

Dustin barely moves.

DUSTIN: Shit.

STEVE: That work?

INT. SCOOPS AHOY – BACK ROOM – DAY

The bell on the counter starts to ding. Robin turns around to see Erica standing in front of the counter, ringing the bell.

Dustin: One more time.

ERICA: Ahoy, sailors! All hands on deck! Ahoy!

Erica continues to ring the bell. Robin has a realisation.

ERICA (CONT'D): Come on. Get over here and serve me some samples.

Robin smiles.

EXT. HAWKINS COMMUNITY POOL – CAR PARK – DAY

Eleven, Mike, Max, Lucas, and Will stand behind a car, watching the pool. Max watches Billy through a pair of binoculars as he sits in the lifeguard tower. He's wearing a long sleeve white shirt and has a towel draped over his legs.

MAX: I don't know. He looks pretty normal to me.

LUCAS: Normal?

Max lowers the binoculars.

LUCAS (CONT'D): How many times have you seen him with a shirt on?

MAX: I mean, it's a little weird.

MIKE: More than a little. He was in a tub with ice. The Mind Flayer likes it cold. Plus everything else-

MAX: But he's lounging at the pool, which is, like, the least Mind Flayer thing ever.

WILL: Not necessarily.

Everyone looks at Will.

WILL (CONT'D): The Mind Flayer likes to hide. He only used me when he needed me. It's like...like you're dormant. And then, when he needs you...

Will looks into the pool at Billy.

WILL (CONT'D): You're activated.

MAX: Okay, so we just...wait until he gets activated.

MIKE: No. What if he hurts someone?

WILL: Or kills someone.

MIKE: We can't take that chance. We need to find out if he's the host.

Mike pushes away from the car and starts to walk towards the pool entrance.

ELEVEN: Where are you going?

MIKE: I have an idea. Boys only.

Mike gestures to Lucas and Will to follow him.

MAX: Seriously?

MIKE: Just trust me on this one.

Max and Eleven share a look.

EXT. HAWKINS COMMUNITY POOL – POOL AREA – DAY

Mike opens the door of the men's room and walks inside, followed by Lucas and Will.

INT. HAWKINS COMMUNITY POOL – MEN'S ROOM – DAY

Mike leads Lucas and Will as he walks through.

MIKE (CONT'D): Okay, so we wait until the pool closes, until everyone leaves, and we somehow get him to come from here and...

Mike gestures to the room. He opens a door.

INT. HAWKINS COMMUNITY POOL – GYM – NIGHT

Mike opens the door, followed by Lucas and Will. He points at the sauna as they walk towards it.

MIKE (CONT'D): Get him into here.

Mike opens the door to the sauna, finding five older men sitting inside. The boys look in horror.

MAN 1: Hey, shut the door!

MAN 2: Hey, come on, kid, shut it!

Mike quickly shuts the sauna door. He shares disgusted looks with Lucas and Will.

LUCAS: I think I just threw up in my mouth.

Mike looks around. He spots the controls beside the door and moves to them. Lucas and Will move over.

MIKE: And look, the controls are right here. It's perfect.

WILL: Will it get hot enough?

MIKE: 220 degrees.

Mike moves to look into the sauna door window.

MIKE (CONT'D): We just have to figure out how to get him in here.

WILL: Then we lock him in...

LUCAS: Heat him up...

MIKE: No matter what happens, we'll know. We'll know for sure.

INT. STARCOURT MALL – VENTS – DAY

Erica clicks the torch on as she looks into the air ducts.

ERICA: Hmm...

INT. SCOOPS AHOY – BACK ROOM – DAY

Erica steps down from the ladder and turns to face Steve, Dustin, and Robin. They lean back against the counter, watching her.

ERICA (CONT'D): Yeah, I don't know.

DUSTIN: You don't know if you can fit?

ERICA: Oh, I can fit. I just don't know if I want to.

Steve rolls his eyes.

ROBIN: Are you claustrophobic?

Erica snickers.

ERICA: I don't have phobias.

STEVE: Okay, well, what's the problem?

ERICA: The problem is, I still haven't heard what's in this for Erica.

Steve looks as though he's holding back anger.

INT. SCOOPS AHOY – EATING AREA – DAY

Erica sits in the back of a booth. Dustin and Robin sit on either side of her, with Steve at the other end of the table. The table is already full of ice cream. Steve slides a banana split towards Erica. She slides it back.

ERICA (CONT'D): More fudge, please.

Steve, Robin, and Dustin look at the banana split. Erica waves her hand.

ERICA (CONT'D): Go on.

Steve looks as though he's holding back annoyance, but he grabs the banana split and leaves the booth.

ROBIN: All right.

Robin holds up the Starcourt Mall blueprints.

ROBIN (CONT'D): You see this? This is the route you're gonna take.

Robin follows the red line with her finger, flipping the blueprints over to show the rest of the route.

ROBIN (CONT'D): Then we just wait till the last delivery goes out tonight. Then you knock out the grate, jump down, open the door.

ERICA: Then you find out what's in those boxes?

ROBIN: Exactly.

Robin sets the blueprints down.

ERICA: Mmm-hmm. And you say this guard is armed.

DUSTIN: Yes, but he won't be there.

ERICA: And booby traps?

ROBIN: Booby traps?

ERICA: Lasers, spikes in the wall?

ROBIN: What?

ERICA: You know what this half-baked plan of yours sounds like to me? Child endangerment.

ROBIN: We'll be in radio contact with you the whole time-

Erica waggles her finger.

ERICA: Ah, ah, ah! Child endangerment.

DUSTIN: Erica? Hi. Uh...we think these Russians want to do harm to our country. Great harm. Don't you love your country?

ERICA: You can't spell "America" without "Erica".

Erica grabs a milkshake cup and starts slurping the drink loudly. Dustin thinks for a moment.

DUSTIN: Uh, yeah, yeah. Oddly, that's, uh, totally true. So, so, don't do this for us. Do it for your country. Do it for your fellow man. Do this for America...Erica.

Erica gets the shivers. She smiles as she sets the drink down.

ERICA: Ooh! I just got the chills.

Dustin grins.

ERICA (CONT'D): Oh, yeah, from this float, not your speech.

Dustin looks slightly hurt.

ERICA (CONT'D): You know what I love most about this country? Capitalism. Do you know what capitalism is?

DUSTIN: Yeah.

ROBIN: Yeah.

ERICA: It means this is a free market system. Which means people get paid for their services, depending on how valuable their contributions are. And it seems to me, my ability to fit into that little vent is very, very valuable to you all. So, you want my help? This USS Butterscotch better be the first of many. And I'm talking free ice cream for life.

Erica picks up a cherry and eats it, pulling the stem out of her mouth and dropping it on the table.

EXT. KLINE HOUSE – DAY

Hopper's truck pulls up.

INT. KLINE HOUSE – FOYER – DAY

Kline opens the door, nose stuffed with bloody tissues, and walks towards the stairs. Hopper and Joyce enter the house after him. Hopper whistles.

HOPPER: Wow, I love the place, Lar.

Hopper notices a zebra rug on the floor in front of them.

HOPPER (CONT'D): Hey, you shoot that fella yourself?

Kline winces as he walks up the stairs. Hopper and Joyce follow.

KLINE: That's...that's not real.

HOPPER: No shit!

INT. KLINE HOUSE – HALLWAY – DAY

Kline walks towards the bedroom. Hopper and Joyce follow. Joyce briefly looks at the framed map of Roane County on the wall as they pass.

INT. KLINE HOUSE – MAIN BEDROOM – DAY

Kline opens a safe, revealing a set of folders. He grabs the folders out and hands them to Hopper, before he closes the safe and sits on a chair next to the wall.

HOPPER (CONT'D): All right, so...

Hopper leans against a table, opening the folders and flicking through.

HOPPER (CONT'D): What exactly are we looking at?

KLINE: Land deeds, transfers of property.

HOPPER: So your buddies at Starcourt, they suddenly start buying up all this property. They tell you why?

KLINE: I already told you, they don't tell me anything.

HOPPER: They're just using you, I get it. What I don't get...

Joyce walks over to Hopper and takes the folders from him, flicking through herself. Hopper fidgets with the rubber band that held the folders together.

HOPPER (CONT'D): Is why you have a bunch of land deeds in a safe in your bedroom.

KLINE: These people, Jim, they're bad news.

HOPPER: So, what, this is blackmail?

Hopper wraps the rubber band around his hand, ready to flick it.

KLINE: Protection.

HOPPER: Protection.

JOYCE: Hold on a second.

Joyce walks away with the folders. Hopper flicks the rubber band at Kline, hitting him in the face and making him jump.

INT. KLINE HOUSE – HALLWAY – DAY

Joyce stands in front of the framed map of Roane County. Hopper walks towards her.

HOPPER: Hey, what is it?

JOYCE: Hess Farm, Henry's place, Bullocks...look, they're all here. They're all in Southeast Hawkins, right near Jordan Lake. And what else is near Jordan Lake?

HOPPER: The power plant.

Hopper takes the folders from Joyce.

JOYCE: Four nights ago, there was a huge power outage, and the next day-

HOPPER: Your magnets fell.

Hopper moves to lean against the balcony.

JOYCE: Yeah, I mean, Scott says that this machine would take a massive amount of power to run.

HOPPER: Yeah.

JOYCE: So, what if this machine that we've been talking about really does exist, and the reason that we didn't find it at the lab is because it isn't at the lab, it's at one of these properties.

Hopper pushes off the balcony and walks towards Joyce.

HOPPER: Um...I want you to...forget about sales. I want you to come work for me at the Hawkins PD.

JOYCE: And have to look at your face every day? I don't think so.

Hopper smiles.

There's a clattering from the direction of the bedroom. Joyce and Hopper look in its direction.

INT. KLINE HOUSE – MAIN BEDROOM – DAY

Kline attempts to escape by climbing out the window, the blinds making noise.

HOPPER (O.S.): Larry!

Hopper runs into the room.

HOPPER (CONT'D): Hey!

Hopper grabs Kline and pulls him away from the window, making him stand upright.

HOPPER (CONT'D): Hey, where do you think you're going, pal?

Hopper pushes Kline away from the window. Kline yells.

EXT. WHEELER HOUSE – FRONT YARD – DAY

A knocking sounds.

KAREN (O.S.): Nancy?

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – FIRST FLOOR LANDING – DAY

Karen stands outside Nancy's room. She waits for an answer.

KAREN (CONT'D): Nance?

Karen gently tries the doorknob but finds it locked. She sighs and moves towards the stairs. As she starts walking down them, Nancy opens the door and steps out. She sniffles as she looks at Karen, and it's clear that she's been crying. Karen looks concerned.

NANCY (O.S.): Maybe Jonathan's right.

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – KITCHEN – DAY

Nancy sits on the bench as Karen stands at the sink, making a cup of coffee.

NANCY (CONT'D): To be honest, I wasn't thinking about him. I wasn't thinking about anyone, really. I just...I wanted to be right. I wanted to be right so badly.

KAREN: And were you?

Karen turns around, leaning on the counter.

NANCY: I thought so. But maybe I just...don't want to admit that I'm wrong, because if I'm wrong, then-

KAREN: You're what everyone thinks you are.

NANCY: Just a kid who has no idea what she's doing.

Karen nods knowingly. She sighs.

KAREN: It's not easy out there, Nance.

NANCY: I know.

KAREN: People are always saying you can't. That you shouldn't. That you're not...smart enough, not good enough.

Karen sighs.

KAREN (CONT'D): This world, it...it beats you up again and again until eventually, I...most people, they just...they just stop trying.

Nancy looks down. Karen moves towards Nancy and sits on the bench beside her.

KAREN (CONT'D): But you're not like that. You're a fighter.

Nancy gives a small smile.

KAREN (CONT'D): You always have been. I honestly don't know where you get it from.

Karen chuckles.

NANCY: Dad.

Nancy and Karen share a look before laughing.

KAREN: I think you were swapped in the hospital, to tell you the truth.

NANCY: No.

Nancy shakes her head.

NANCY (CONT'D): I get it from you, Mum. I get it from you.

Karen snuffles. She looks as though she's trying to form words but stopping herself.

KAREN: Well, wherever you get it from, I'm proud of you.

NANCY: Proud of me for getting fired?

KAREN: That you stood up for yourself. That you stood up to those...shitheads.

Nancy looks at Karen in horror.

NANCY: Mum!

KAREN: Yes, those shitheads.

Nancy chuckles, sniffling as she looks at her hands.

KAREN (CONT'D): And if you believe in this story...look at me, Nancy.

Nancy looks at Karen.

KAREN (CONT'D): Finish it. Then go sell it to the Indianapolis Star or whatever and...I mean, can you imagine their faces when they read a story about their own town in a big paper like that?

NANCY: That would be...pretty amazing.

KAREN: So, why not? Why not?

NANCY: Finish it.

Karen pulls Nancy in for a hug.

EXT. HAWKINS COMMUNITY POOL – POOL AREA – DAY

Billy sits in the lifeguard chair, looking at the people in the pool. He's wearing a long sleeve rashie and has a towel over his legs. He holds an Icee in his left hand and is fidgeting with a lighter in his left. He's sweating profusely.

EXT. HAWKINS COMMUNITY POOL – MAINTENANCE SHED – DAY

Will and Lucas run up to the shed. Will opens the door and they walk inside.

INT. HAWKINS COMMUNITY POOL – MAINTENANCE SHED – DAY

Will and Lucas walk inside and begin rifling around for supplies.

LUCAS: Uh, Will? Um, you know, about yesterday...

WILL: It's fine, Lucas. You don't have to say anything.

LUCAS: I know, but it's just...

Lucas grabs a long pole and turns to face Will, who has his back to him.

LUCAS (CONT'D): It was a really cool campaign. And Mike and I, we should've never-

WILL: I don't care anymore, Lucas. I really don't. We have bigger things to worry about now.

Will pulls a box off the shelf, turning to face Lucas. He reaches in and pulls out a large chain.

WILL (CONT'D): This should hold him.

INT. HAWKINS COMMUNITY POOL – SECONDARY STORAGE ROOM – DAY

Eleven uses her powers to click open the lock, walking inside and looking around for supplies. She finds a CPR dummy and pulls it off the shelf. Mike sighs as he enters the room.

MIKE: Hey, I found the breakers.

Eleven looks annoyed to have Mike in the room with her, turning to face him.

MIKE (CONT'D): Whoa, that thing is super creepy.

Mike takes the dummy from Eleven, who looks annoyed that he took it.

MIKE (CONT'D): Let me see it.

Mike holds the dummy against his side, almost like a mum with a toddler on her hip.

MIKE (CONT'D): I think this'll work. Right, buddy?

Mike grabs the dummy's chin and moves it up and down as if it's speaking.

MIKE (CONT'D): (in a squeaky voice) Right, Mike.

Mike looks at Eleven, grinning. He chuckles. She looks unamused. She wrenches the dummy away from Mike and starts carrying it to the door.

MIKE (CONT'D): Hey, El...

Eleven stops in the doorway and faces Mike.

MIKE (CONT'D): I just wanted to say...you know when I said Nana was sick? She wasn't. I lied.

ELEVEN: I know.

Eleven moves to walk out of the room.

MIKE: Right, right, right.

Eleven stops and faces Mike.

MIKE (CONT'D): No, I just...think it was important for you to know the context.

Eleven's eyes narrow slightly.

MIKE (CONT'D): Hopper, he went all crazy on me, telling me I'm spending way too much time with you. I made me lie. I mean, you're the most important thing to me in the world.

Eleven drops the dummy on the ground.

ELEVEN: What if he's right?

MIKE: What?

Eleven steps towards Mike.

ELEVEN: Hop.

MIKE: No, no, no, no. He's just some angry old man who hates joy.

ELEVEN: But if I only see you...

Eleven forcibly pokes her finger against Mike's shoulder. He rubs the spot she poked.

ELEVEN (CONT'D): And I'm a different species than you, then I should be with my species more.

MIKE: What are you talking about?

Eleven says nothing, turning around to pick the dummy up. Mike gasps when he realises.

MIKE (CONT'D): Did you spy on me?

Eleven hikes the dummy over her shoulder.

MIKE (CONT'D): That's totally against the rules.

ELEVEN: I make my own rules.

Eleven leaves the room, leaving Mike standing in disbelief.

MAX (ON SUPERCOMM): Mike, are you there?

Mike quickly pulls out his Supercomm.

MIKE: Yeah!

EXT. HAWKINS COMMUNITY POOL – CAR PARK – DAY

Max stands beside a car, binoculars hanging around her neck.

MAX: Where are you guys?

MIKE (ON SUPERCOMM): I'm coming. Just...

INT. HAWKINS COMMUNITY POOL – SECONDARY STORAGE ROOM – DAY

MIKE (CONT'D): Hold on a second.

Mike de-extends the Supercomm antenna.

MIKE (CONT'D): Shit!

EXT. HAWKINS COMMUNITY POOL – CAR PARK – DAY

Max sets the Supercomm down on the hood of the car. She uses the binoculars to look at Billy as he sits in the lifeguard chair.

MAX: God, I hope it's not you.

Max lowers the binoculars.

MAX (CONT'D): I really hope it's not you.

EXT. HAWKINS COMMUNITY POOL – POOL AREA – DAY

Billy sits in the lifeguard chair, looking at the people in the pool. He's wearing a long sleeve rashie and has a towel over his legs. He holds an Icee in his left hand and is fidgeting with a lighter in his left. He's sweating profusely.

EXT. STARCOURT MALL – NIGHT

Radio static pops.

ROBIN (O.S.): Erica, do you copy?

ERICA (ON SUPERCOMM): Mmm-hmm. I copy.

INT. SCOOPS AHOY – BACK ROOM – NIGHT

Erica straps a helmet on, one that has two torches duct taped to it.

ERICA (CONT'D): You nerds in position or what?

ROBIN (ON SUPERCOMM): Yeah, we're in position.

EXT. STARCOURT MALL – ROOFTOP – NIGHT

Robin, Steve, and Dustin sit on top of the roof, looking down at the delivery zone. Dustin uses binoculars to see more clearly.

ROBIN (CONT'D): It's all quiet here, so you've got the green light.

INT. SCOOPS AHOY – BACK ROOM – NIGHT

ERICA: Green light, roger that. Commence Operation Child Endangerment.

Erica starts to climb the ladder.

EXT. STARCOURT MALL – ROOFTOP – NIGHT

ROBIN: Can we maybe not call it that.

ERICA (ON SUPERCOMM): See you on the other side.

INT. STARCOURT MALL – VENTS – NIGHT

Erica turns the torches on.

ERICA (CONT'D): Nerds.

Erica starts to climb into the vent, grunting and straining as she pulls herself in.

EXT. STARCOURT MALL – ROOFTOP – NIGHT

Robin looks at Steve.

INT. STARCOURT MALL – VENTS – NIGHT

Erica army crawls her way through.

INT. KLINE HOUSE – FOYER – NIGHT

Winnie opens the door, wearing jazzercise clothes, closing the door behind her.

KLINE (O.S.): Winnie! Winnie, is that you?

WINNIE: Larry?

Winnie drops her things in the foyer and starts running up the stairs.

KLINE (O.S.): Winnie, upstairs in the bedroom!

INT. KLINE HOUSE – HALLWAY – NIGHT

Winnie walks towards the bedroom.

WINNIE: Baby.

INT. KLINE HOUSE – MAIN BEDROOM – NIGHT

Winnie rounds the corner, finding Kline awkwardly handcuffed to the side of the bed.

WINNIE (CONT'D): Oh, my God, baby, what happened?

KLINE: Get me a phone.

WINNIE: Baby-

KLINE: Get me a goddamn phone!

EXT. BULLOCK FARM – NIGHT

Hopper's truck pulls up.

INT. BULLOCK FARM – KITCHEN – NIGHT

Hopper kicks open the door. He and Joyce walk in, using torches to see as they look around.

INT. BULLOCK FARM – HALLWAY – NIGHT

Joyce looks around.

INT. BULLOCK FARM – HALLWAY – NIGHT

Hopper walks up the stairs. He steps onto the floor and looks around.

INT. BULLOCK FARM – HALLWAY – NIGHT

Hopper walks down the stairs, meeting up with Joyce.

JOYCE: Anything?

HOPPER: No. This place is dead.

INT. HOPPER'S TRUCK

Joyce crosses Bullocks off the list in her notebook. Hopper gets into the driver's seat.

HOPPER (CONT'D): All right, where to next?

JOYCE: Hess Farm.

Hopper puts the truck into reverse and reverses out.

INT. STARCOURT MALL – VENTS – NIGHT

Erica grunts as she pulls herself through the vents. She comes across a vent cover and pulls herself into a slightly hunched over sitting position.

ERICA: All right, nerds.

EXT. STARCOURT MALL – ROOFTOP – NIGHT

Robin, Steve, and Dustin sit on top of the roof, looking down at the delivery zone. Dustin uses binoculars to see more clearly.

ERICA (CONT'D)(ON SUPERCOMM): I'm there.

ROBIN: Do you...do you see anything?

INT. STARCOURT MALL – VENTS – NIGHT

Erica looks through the vent cover into the delivery room.

ERICA: Yeah, I see those boring boxes you're so excited about.

ROBIN (ON SUPERCOMM): Any guards?

ERICA: Negative.

EXT. STARCOURT MALL – ROOFTOP – NIGHT

ROBIN: Booby traps?

INT. STARCOURT MALL – VENTS – NIGHT

Erica pulls her bag off and holds it in her lap.

ERICA: If I could see them, they'd be pretty shit traps...

EXT. STARCOURT MALL – ROOFTOP – NIGHT

ERICA (CONT'D)(ON SUPERCOMM): Wouldn't they?

ROBIN: Thank you for that.

INT. STARCOURT MALL – VENTS – NIGHT

Erica yells as she kicks the vent cover in. She tosses her bag through the hole and into the room, jumping down after it.

INT. STARCOURT MALL – DELIVERY ROOM – NIGHT

Erica turns around to face the door.

ERICA: I'm in.

EXT. STARCOURT MALL – ROOFTOP – NIGHT

Steve looks nervous.

STEVE: Oh, God.

Steve covers his face with his hands.

INT. STARCOURT MALL – DELIVERY ROOM – NIGHT

Erica opens the control panel and presses the button labelled 'DOOR OPEN'. A buzzer sounds.

EXT. STARCOURT MALL – ROOFTOP – NIGHT

Robin, Steve, and Dustin watch as the doors to the delivery room open.

EXT. STARCOURT MALL – NIGHT

Erica walks out, looking up at them. Robin looks proud. Steve looks impressed. Dustin looks shocked.

ERICA: Free ice cream for life.

EXT. STARCOURT MALL – ROOFTOP – NIGHT

They all stand up.

EXT. HAWKINS COMMUNITY POOL – POOL AREA – NIGHT

Dim lights illuminate the area. The pool is empty. Insects chirp.

INT. HAWKINS COMMUNITY POOL – MEN'S ROOM – NIGHT

Billy stands in the shower, the sound of water running echoing slightly. He turns the shower off, turning around to grab his towel.

INT. HAWKINS COMMUNITY POOL – MEN'S ROOM – NIGHT

Billy opens his locker, putting his towel inside and grabbing out a pair of pants, pulling them on. There's a clanging in the distance.

BILLY: Pool's closed.

There's metallic scraping, then more clanging.

BILLY (CONT'D): Hey.

Billy slams the locker door shut, quickly walking away.

BILLY (CONT'D): Do you hear me?

Billy rounds the corner, walking towards the door.

BILLY (CONT'D): Pool is closed!

Billy tries to push the door open but finds it locked. He bangs on it a few times but is unable to open it, a padlock on the other side. The lights shut off.

MIKE (O.S.): (faintly) Billy!

Billy moves away from the door, looking into the room.

BILLY: Who's there?

MIKE (O.S.): (faintly, in a sing-songy voice) Billy!

There's clanging.

BILLY: (in a sing-songy voice) Who's there?

Mike's laughter echoes.

INT. HAWKINS COMMUNITY POOL – MEN'S ROOM – NIGHT

Billy aggressively opens a shower curtain.

MIKE (O.S.): Billy!

Billy slowly closes the shower curtain. He slowly starts slinking further into the room.

MIKE (CONT'D)(O.S.): Billy!

BILLY: You think this is funny, huh?

Mike's laughter echoes.

MIKE (O.S.): (echoing) Billy. Come and find me.

BILLY: I find you, it is your funeral.

The door to the weight room slowly closes.

MIKE (O.S.): (echoing) Come and get me. Come on!

INT. HAWKINS COMMUNITY POOL – GYM – NIGHT

Billy enters the room.

MIKE (CONT'D)(O.S.): Billy!

Billy spots the CPR dummy inside the sauna, only seeing its shadow through the window. Mike's laughter echoes.

BILLY: Got you.

Billy cackles as he walks towards the sauna, clapping.

MIKE (O.S.): Come and get me, you piece of shit.

Billy opens the door to the sauna and is confused when he sees the dummy, a Supercomm taped to its stomach.

INT. HAWKINS COMMUNITY POOL – SAUNA – NIGHT

Billy steps inside, grunting as he grabs the dummy around the throat and lifts it so its head touches the ceiling.

MIKE (ON SUPERCOMM): Hey.

Billy looks at the Supercomm.

MIKE (CONT'D)(ON SUPERCOMM): Behind you.

Billy lowers the dummy, turning around to see Eleven standing back from the doorway.

ELEVEN: Hi.

Billy throws the dummy to the ground and starts to walk towards Eleven. She grunts as she uses her powers to throw him backwards. He yells as he flies backwards, hitting the wall with a grunt. The impact breaks part of the wall, the tiles falling to the ground as he does.

INT. HAWKINS COMMUNITY POOL – GYM – NIGHT

MIKE: Now!

Mike opens the door to the weight room. He turns the lights on as he, Lucas, Will, and Max run into the room and towards the sauna. Eleven uses her powers to close the sauna door. Billy yells and runs towards the door. Mike lodges a thin pipe through the door handle and behind a pipe next to the door. Will quickly wraps a chain around the pipes and door handle. Billy grunts as he throws himself against the door. Lucas works to put a padlock on the chain. Mike nervously looks through the window as Lucas struggles.

MIKE (CONT'D): Come on.

Lucas manages to lock the padlock.

LUCAS: Got it.

Mike, Lucas, and Will run away from the door, moving to stand with Max behind Eleven. They watch as Billy tries to open the door, grunting. He stops, panting. An eerie sense of calm washes over him as he stares at Max.

BILLY: Max.

Eleven turns to look at Max. Max takes a deep breath.

MAX: Do it.

Will runs over to the sauna temperature control and cranks it up to 200 degrees.

EXT. HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL – NIGHT

The Wheeler car pulls up outside.

INT. HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL – WAITING ROOM – NIGHT

Nancy walks up to the reception desk, carrying a bouquet of flowers.

NANCY: Hi.

The receptionist looks up. She only grunts in response.

NANCY (CONT'D): Uh, I'm here to see Doris Driscoll. I think she was admitted last night.

RECEPTIONIST: Name and relation?

NANCY: Uh...Nancy...Driscoll. I'm...Nancy Driscoll. Her...granddaughter.

The receptionist looks unconvinced.

INT. HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL – HALLWAY – NIGHT

Nancy walks down the hallway towards Mrs. Driscoll's room, wearing a name badge that reads 'NANCY DRISCOLL'. She comes across Room 403, pausing briefly before pushing the door open and walking inside.

INT. HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL – PATIENT ROOM – NIGHT

Mrs. Driscoll lays sleeping in the hospital bed, the heart rate monitor beeping steadily. Nancy opens the door and walks in, gently closing the door behind her. Mrs. Driscoll sniffs. Nancy walks over to the small table at the foot of the bed, setting the flowers down and picking Mrs. Driscoll's file up. She looks at the door before opening it, looking through. The heart rate monitor starts beeping quicker. Mrs. Driscoll sniffs. Nancy reads through the file, then looks up at Mrs. Driscoll.

INT. STARCOURT MALL – DELIVERY ROOM – NIGHT

Steve, Dustin, Robin, and Erica stand around a table with boxes on it. Steve cuts open a box, ripping it open. Inside they find a case of some sort, one with a handle on top. Steve reaches in and grabs the handle, looking at Erica briefly before twisting the handle. Air hisses. Steve lifts the lid off the case. Inside are four covered tubes, all with a handle of their own. Steam rises.

STEVE: That's definitely not Chinese food.

Steve moves to grab one of the handles, then stops. He looks at Dustin, Robin, and Erica before gesturing for them to move back.

STEVE (CONT'D): Uh, maybe you guys should, you know, stand back.

Robin and Erica take a few steps back. Dustin shakes his head.

DUSTIN: No.

STEVE: Just...

Steve pushes on Dustin's chest.

STEVE (CONT'D): Just step back, okay?

DUSTIN: No.

STEVE: Step back.

DUSTIN: No.

STEVE: Seriously. Ste-

DUSTIN: No!

Steve looks at Dustin.

DUSTIN (CONT'D): If you die, I die.

Steve and Dustin stare at each other for a few moments. Steve raises his eyebrows, shrugging slightly.

STEVE: Okay.

Steve reaches in and grabs one of the handles, twisting it. Air hisses as it unlocks. Steve slowly lifts it out of the case, revealing a tube full of green liquid.

STEVE (CONT'D): What the hell?

ROBIN: What is that?

The delivery room shakes, rumbling.

DUSTIN: Was that just me, or did the room move?

ERICA: (whispering) Booby traps.

There's a mechanical whirring, and the room shakes again.

ROBIN: You know what? Let's just grab that and go.

Robin grabs the tube from Steve and moves to put it in Erica's bag. Dustin moves to the control panel. He presses the button labelled 'DOOR OPEN' a few times, but nothing happens.

DUSTIN: Which one do I press, Erica?

ERICA: Just press the damn button, nerd.

DUSTIN: Which one? I'm pressing the button, okay?

ERICA: Press "open door".

DUSTIN: I'm pressing "open door".

Steve moves to the control panel.

STEVE: Just open the...press the button.

Steve pushes the 'DOOR OPEN' button a times, but nothing happens.

ROBIN: Guys, get out of the way so she can push the button-

STEVE: Would you stop?

DUSTIN: I'm trying.

Steve starts pressing buttons.

STEVE: Would you let me just do it? Would you stop?

ROBIN: Just open the door!

There's a clang, and a door lowers itself down in front of the main door. It slams shut. They all stare at the door. The room starts to shake, throwing them all off balance. Robin and Erica scream. Steve looks at the top of the wall and notices it moving, almost as if it's an elevator travelling down.

STEVE: Oh, shit.

INT. STARCOURT MALL – ELEVATOR SHAFT – NIGHT The delivery room – now an elevator – speeds down the shaft.

INT. HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL – PATIENT ROOM – NIGHT

Mrs. Driscoll's heart rate monitor begins to beep rapidly. Nancy doesn't notice, too busy copying the doctor's notes onto her notepad. Mrs. Driscoll begins to breathe rapidly, coughing slightly. The heart rate monitor beeps rapidly. Nancy hears Mrs. Driscoll and looks up, before her eyes drift from Mrs. Driscoll to the heart rate monitor, which beeps even more rapidly. Nancy's eyes watch in horror as the heart rate monitor starts to jump significantly and continues to beep more rapidly.

INT. HAWKINS COMMUNITY POOL – GYM – NIGHT

Billy throws himself against the sauna door.

BILLY: Max! Let me out of here!

Billy's voice echoes. Will, Mike, Max, Lucas, and Eleven take a small step back.

BILLY (CONT'D): Let me out.

Billy pants, sweating profusely.

BILLY (CONT'D): You kids...you think this is funny?

Mike and Lucas share a look.

BILLY (CONT'D): You kids think this is some kind of sick prank, huh?

Billy spits on the sauna window. Max and Will share a look.

BILLY (CONT'D): You little shits think this is funny? What is this? Open the door.

Billy hits the sauna door, making them jump.

BILLY (CONT'D): Open the door!

Billy starts to hit the sauna door over and over.

BILLY (CONT'D): Open the door! Open the goddamn door!

Max looks unsure. Billy backs away from the window slightly, then drops out of sight. Will runs over to check the sauna temperature. Billy screams. Will looks at the others.

WILL: We're at 220.

Max purses her lips slightly. Will walks back to the group. Billy grunts, then starts sobbing. They all look confused.

BILLY (O.S.): It's not my fault. It's not my fault.

Max slowly starts to walk towards the sauna.

BILLY (CONT'D)(O.S.): It's not my fault, Max. I promise you, it's not my fault.

Max looks through the sauna window. Billy sits on the floor against the back bench, hands together.

MAX: What's not your fault, Billy?

INT. HAWKINS COMMUNITY POOL – SAUNA – NIGHT

BILLY: I've done things, Max. Really...bad things. I didn't mean to.

INT. HAWKINS COMMUNITY POOL – GYM – NIGHT

Will, Mike, and Lucas step a little closer to Eleven.

INT. HAWKINS COMMUNITY POOL – SAUNA – NIGHT

BILLY (CONT'D): He made me do it.

MAX: Who made you do it?

BILLY: I don't know, it's like a shadow.

INT. HAWKINS COMMUNITY POOL – GYM – NIGHT

Eleven looks at Will.

BILLY (CONT'D)(O.S.): Like a giant shadow.

INT. HAWKINS COMMUNITY POOL – SAUNA – NIGHT

BILLY (CONT'D): Please, Max.

INT. HAWKINS COMMUNITY POOL – GYM – NIGHT

Max looks through the sauna window.

MAX: What did he make you do?

INT. HAWKINS COMMUNITY POOL – SAUNA – NIGHT

Billy rests his head on the bench beside him.

BILLY: It's not my fault, okay? Max, please.

INT. HAWKINS COMMUNITY POOL – GYM – NIGHT

Max looks through the sauna window. She starts to cry.

BILLY (CONT'D)(O.S.): Please, believe me, Max, it's not my fault.

INT. HAWKINS COMMUNITY POOL – SAUNA – NIGHT

BILLY (CONT'D): I tried to stop him, okay? I did.

Billy sniffles.

BILLY (CONT'D): Please believe me, Max. Please believe me.

Max puts her hand on the sauna window.

MAX: Billy, it's gonna be okay.

BILLY: Max, please.

Unseen by Max, Billy uses his hand to grab a broken tile hidden under the bench.

MAX: It's going to be okay. We want to help you. We want to help you.

INT. HAWKINS COMMUNITY POOL – GYM – NIGHT

Max looks through the sauna window.

MAX (CONT'D): You just have to talk to us, okay?

Will, Mike, Eleven, and Lucas watch Max.

MAX (CONT'D): You have to talk to us.

The hairs on the back of Will's neck stand up, and he reaches a hand up to touch it.

MAX (CONT'D): I believe you, Billy. We'll figure it out together, okay?

WILL: I feel him.

Mike looks at Will. Will looks at Mike.

WILL (CONT'D): He's activated.

MAX: I need you to trust me. Please.

MIKE: Max, get away from the door.

INT. HAWKINS COMMUNITY POOL – GYM – NIGHT

Max looks through the sauna window.

MAX: What?

Mike looks at Max.

MIKE: Get away from the door!

Billy's hand smashes through the sauna window. Max screams as she jumps to the side. Billy yells. Mike, Will, Lucas, and Eleven jump back, with Eleven putting her arms out protectively. Billy stands with his arm out the sauna window, looking at Max.

BILLY: Let me out, you bitch! Let me out!

Max look terrified. Billy starts to bang on the outside of the door with the broken tile.

BILLY (CONT'D): I'll fucking gut you!

Billy reaches down and grabs the pipe from the door, pulling it out of the chains and throwing it towards Max. It hits the wall next to her, falling to the floor with a clatter.

BILLY (CONT'D): Let me out!

Billy starts to pull on the chains, yelling. Max shies away, looking terrified.

BILLY (CONT'D): Let me out!

Lucas grabs his slingshot and fires a rock at Billy. It hits him square in the forehead.

INT. HAWKINS COMMUNITY POOL – SAUNA – NIGHT

Billy falls backwards, hitting the floor with a grunt.

INT. HAWKINS COMMUNITY POOL – GYM – NIGHT

Lucas gestures for Max to run over to them.

LUCAS: Max, come on!

Max runs over to the group, looking at the sauna door with a scare expression. The lights in the room begin to flicker. They look around.

INT. HAWKINS COMMUNITY POOL – SAUNA – NIGHT

Billy coughs up water. He groans and tries to roll over but rolls back onto his back. He tries again and ends on his side.

INT. HAWKINS COMMUNITY POOL – GYM – NIGHT

The lights flicker. Max, Eleven, Mike, Will, and Lucas look around. They look at each other.

INT. HAWKINS COMMUNITY POOL – SAUNA – NIGHT

Black tendrils appear on Billy's skin. He grunts as he pulls himself up, his feet dragging along the ground. He starts to move around a lot as the black tendrils spread, leaning on the walls for support. He pushes himself off the wall and stands in the middle of the sauna, the black tendrils spreading further. He roars as they make their way up onto his face, the roar distorted.

INT. HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL – PATIENT ROOM – NIGHT

Mrs. Driscoll screams as black tendrils spread all over her body. There's rapid beeping from the heart rate monitor. The lights flicker. Nancy watches in horror. Mrs. Driscoll continues to scream, the scream distorted.

NANCY: Oh, my God.

INT. HAWKINS COMMUNITY POOL – GYM – NIGHT

The lights flicker. Will, Mike, Eleven, Max, and Lucas all turn to face the sauna door. Billy roars inside.

INT. HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL – PATIENT ROOM – NIGHT

Nancy runs over to the call button and starts pressing it repeatedly. Mrs. Driscoll wails, her voice distorted. She looks at Nancy, who stares back with a horrified expression.

INT. HAWKINS COMMUNITY POOL – SAUNA – NIGHT

Billy roars and runs towards the sauna door, throwing himself against it.

INT. HAWKINS COMMUNITY POOL – GYM – NIGHT

The sauna door opens partially but is stopped by the chains. Eleven puts her arms out to protect the others.

INT. HAWKINS COMMUNITY POOL – SAUNA – NIGHT

Billy runs and throws himself against the sauna door.

INT. HAWKINS COMMUNITY POOL – GYM – NIGHT

The sauna door opens more than before but is still stopped by the chains.

MAX: He can't get out, can he?

LUCAS: No way.

There's pounding on the door as Billy continues to try and force it open.

LUCAS (CONT'D): No way.

INT. HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL – PATIENT ROOM – NIGHT

Mrs. Driscoll wails, her voice distorted. She looks at Nancy, who stares back with a horrified expression.

INT. HAWKINS COMMUNITY POOL – SAUNA – NIGHT

Billy runs and throws himself against the sauna door.

INT. HAWKINS COMMUNITY POOL – GYM – NIGHT

The door opens partially but is stopped by the chains. The pipe next to the door that has the chains around it starts to bend.

INT. HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL – PATIENT ROOM – NIGHT

Mrs. Driscoll wails, her voice distorted.

INT. HAWKINS COMMUNITY POOL – SAUNA – NIGHT

Billy yells, his voice distorted.

INT. HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL – PATIENT ROOM – NIGHT

Mrs. Driscoll wails, her voice distorted.

INT. HAWKINS COMMUNITY POOL – SAUNA – NIGHT

Billy yells, his voice distorted. He runs and throws himself against the sauna door.

INT. HAWKINS COMMUNITY POOL – GYM – NIGHT

The pipe holding the chains breaks, causing the door to swing open. Billy rolls a few times from the effort. The group yells and jumps back. Billy stands up, face to face with Eleven. He stares at her, breathing heavily. Eleven uses her powers to lift up a weight, throwing it towards Billy. He grabs the bar as he flies backwards, landing against the wall, the bar against his neck. Eleven uses her other hand to aid in pushing the bar further towards Billy, the weights on the end digging into the wall. She grunts with effort. There's a cracking noise and Billy groans. His toes barely touch the ground.

INT. HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL – PATIENT ROOM – NIGHT

Mrs. Driscoll wails, her voice distorted. She looks at Nancy, who stares back with a horrified expression.

INT. HAWKINS COMMUNITY POOL – GYM – NIGHT

Billy starts to push against the bar. Eleven screams as she tries to push it back. Billy wins the fight and throws the weight towards Eleven, hitting her in the head and knocking her to the ground. She tries to crawl away but he walks over and grabs her hair, pulling her head back to look at him. She screams. Billy looks over at Max, who is being protected by Lucas. Billy grabs Eleven around the

throat, causing her to gasp for air. The others can only watch in horror as Billy looks at them. Eleven starts to cough as Billy lifts her up by the throat, staring up at her.

ELEVEN: No! No! No!

Eleven starts to flail and hit Billy's arm, trying to get him to drop her.

ELEVEN (CONT'D): No!

Eleven coughs as Billy tightens his grip.

ELEVEN (CONT'D): No...

Will, Lucas, and Max watch in horror, unable to do anything. Eleven gasps for air as her face starts to turn purple. Mike comes from behind and hits Billy in the back of the head with a pipe. Billy falls to the ground, dropping Eleven in the process.

MIKE: Go to hell, you piece of shit!

Mike aims to bring the pipe down again when Billy rolls over, grabbing the pipe mid-hit. Mike looks scared. Eleven groans. Billy stands up, wrenching the pipe away from Mike and throwing it against a wall. It clangs to the floor. Mike starts to back up as Billy walks towards him, hitting the wall with nowhere else to go. Just as Billy aims to punch Mike, he is lifted off the ground. He looks at Mike in confusion, then groans and yells as he tries to fight. Eleven yells as she uses her powers to lift Billy off the ground, slowly standing up. Billy groans and tries to fight. Eleven grunts as she pulls Billy away from Mike, moving around to stand between Billy and Mike. Eleven and Billy scream at each other. Eleven uses her powers to throw Billy against the far wall, making Will, Max, and Lucas move out of the way.

EXT. HAWKINS COMMUNITY POOL – NIGHT

The force of Eleven's throw makes Billy break through the wall and land on the grass on the other side. He lays in the rubble.

INT. HAWKINS COMMUNITY POOL – GYM – NIGHT

Will, Max, and Lucas look through the hole in the wall, horrified. Eleven starts to cry and collapses against Mike, who holds her as they sink to the floor. They stay there for a few moments, before Mike looks over at the others and helps Eleven up.

EXT. HAWKINS COMMUNITY POOL – NIGHT

Billy lifts his head, groaning as he pushes himself up. He starts to run away.

INT. HAWKINS COMMUNITY POOL – GYM – NIGHT

Mike and Eleven walk towards the hole in the wall, joining Will, Mike, and Lucas. They all look through the hole, watching as Billy runs away.

HEATHER (O.S.): The girl, was it her?

BILLY (O.S.): Yeah. It was her. She knows now. She knows about me.

INT. BRIMBORN STEELWORKS – BASEMENT – NIGHT

Billy and Heather sit on the bottom platform of the stairs, with Heather helping to tend to Billy's wounds. She moves to dab at his head, but he grabs her wrist.

BILLY (CONT'D): She could've killed me.

HEATHER: Yes.

Heather reaches her hand up to gently pull her wrist away from Billy.

HEATHER (CONT'D): But not us.

Heather looks into the basement.

HEATHER (CONT'D): Not us.

The camera pulls away from Billy and Heather to reveal people in the basement. People who are standing completely still and looking away from Billy and Heather. They all look dishevelled in some way. There's a low grumbling, and the camera pulls back further to reveal the Spider Monster at the back of the basement. It roars.

Cut to black.

END EPISODE.